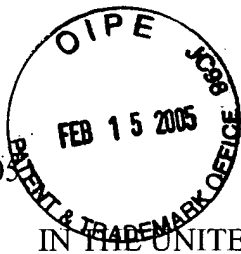


P23527.A03



IFW

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Yoshihiro HAMA et al.

**Mail Stop Issue Fee**

Group Art Unit: 2873

Appln. No. : 10/606,221

**Confirmation No.: 3707**

**Examiner: Joseph MARTINEZ**

Filed : June 26, 2003

For : SCANNING OPTICAL SYSTEM

**COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop Issue Fee  
Randolph Building  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

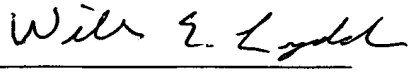
Sir:

In response to the Notice of Allowability, mailed by the Patent and Trademark Office on November 22, 2004 and to the Statement of Reasons for Allowance attached thereto, Applicants wish to clarify the record with respect to the basis for the patentability of claims in the present application. In this regard, while Applicants do not disagree with the Examiner's indication that certain identified features are not disclosed by the references, Applicants submit that each of the claims in the present application recite a particular combination of features, and that the basis for patentability of each of these claims is based on the totality of the particular features recited therein.

P23527.A05

Should there be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,  
Yoshihiro HAMA et al.

  
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Bruce H. Bernstein  
Reg. No. 29,027

**William E. Lyddard**  
**Reg. No. 41,568**

February 14, 2005  
GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.  
1950 Roland Clarke Place  
Reston, Virginia 20191  
(703) 716-1191